



ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system and method for compressing and decompressing image data. The system and method reformats the data by interleaving, before it is sent to the compressor. The step of interleaving uses raster scan lines, taking ~~eight~~^N raster lines at a time and reformatting ~~it~~ the data so that the first bit of the first ~~eight~~^N scan lines form a byte. This is continued for ~~the second through~~ ~~eight~~^N bits. The data is then sent to a byte/text oriented compressor. After decompressing the data using byte/text oriented decompressors. ~~The,~~ the data is sent through an inverse binary data reformatter to un-interleave the data and return it to its original binary format.